

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Claremont has applied for a ground water withdrawal permit, pursuant to Section 62.1-266 of the Ground Water Management Act of 1992 and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Ground Water Withdrawal Regulations, 9 VAC 25-610-10 et seq., to increase the currently permitted amount to 17,100,000 gallons per year with a monthly maximum of 1,463,000 gallons of ground water for the Claremont Water System. The annual withdrawal limit equates to an annual daily average of 46,849 gallons per day. The Claremont Water System consists of two wells located on State Route 609 approximately 1.0 mile east of the intersection of State Route 613 and State Route 609 in the northwestern edge of Surry County. The DEQ has made a tentative decision to issue a permit.

The ground water withdrawal will support the following beneficial use: the withdrawal will be used to supply potable water to homes and businesses that lie within the area served by the Town of Claremont Water System. The proposed withdrawal will utilize the Middle Potomac Aquifer at a depth of approximately between 307 to 403 feet below land surface at the withdrawal site. Depths to the aquifer may vary considerably throughout the area of impact.

Any persons wishing to submit comments relative to this permit application must submit comments, filings, protest, request for a public hearing or any other correspondence on the application to the following address: **Dr. B. N. Sinha, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, 4949A Cox Road, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060 (or E-mail: bnsinha@deq.state.va.us)**. All written comments shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and shall contain a complete and concise statement of the factual basis for the comments. Only those comments received at the address (E-mail or mail) provided before the end of the 30-day comment period will be considered during the Board's final decision on the permit. The 30-day comment period will end at **4.00 p.m. on April 30, 2004**. The Director of the Department of Environmental Quality will consider all written comments and requests for an informal hearing. Determination of the necessity of an informal hearing will be made in accordance with 9 VAC 25-230-50 of Procedural Rule No. 1 (9 VAC 25-230-10 et. Seq.). The Director may dispense with an informal hearing and grant the permit or transmit the application or request to the Board for its decision.

Further information or a copy of the draft permit may be obtained by contacting Dr. B. N. Sinha at (804) 527-5054.